

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12 /106 W  
-----129763 232335Z /20

R 230925Z FEB 78  
FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8082  
INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT  
AMEMBASSY RABAT  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USCINCEUR VAININGEN GERMANY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 0602

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PEPR, ELAB, EGEN, AG, FR  
SUBJECT: ALGERIAN FRENCH RELATIONS: RAY OF LIGHT?

REF: ALGIERS 539

1. ON FEBRUARY 21, FOREIGN MINISTRY SECYGEN SBIH RECEIVED FRENCH AMBASSADOR COMMINES FOR REVIEW OF ALGERIAN-FRENCH RELATIONS "FOLLOWING CONVERSATIONS OF FEBRUARY 13" (REFTEL). ACCORDING TO PRESS, COMMINES INFORMED SBIH "OF SPIRIT OF RECENT DECLARATIONS MADE BY PRESIDENT OF FRENCH REPUBLIC IN COURSE OF TELEVISED INTERVIEW."

2. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF FEBRUARY 22, COMMINES EXPRESSED GUARDED OPTIMISM ABOUT FUTURE OF ALGERIAN-FRENCH RELATIONS. COMMINES NOTED THAT, IN CONVERSATION DESCRIBED REFTTEL, SBIH HAD INSISTED THAT ALL ASPECTS OF ALGERIAN-FRENCH RELATIONS WERE CONFIDENTIAL

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SECONDARY TO FRENCH POLICY IN NORTH AFRICA. ON FEBRUARY 21, BY CONTRAST, SBIH HAD SAID THAT, WHILE FRENCH POLICY IN NORTH AFRICA REMAINED IMPORTANT TO ALGERIANS, LATTER WERE INTERESTED IN KNOWING WHAT GISCARD'S PROPOSITIONS WERE.

3. IN LIGHT OF THIS INTEREST, COMMINES SAID, GOF WOULD BEGIN EXPLORING WITH ALGERIANS ASPECTS OF ALGERIAN-FRENCH RELATIONSHIP

WHICH NEEDED REVIEW. AMONG MATTERS TO BE DISCUSSED, COMMINES SAID, WERE JOINT ECONOMIC COMMISSION AND LABOR AFFAIRS. FRENCH HAD ALWAYS RESISTED FORMATION OF ECONOMIC COMMISSION, HE ADDED, BUT IN INTEREST OF IMPROVING RELATIONSHIP, THEY WERE PREPARED TO TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT MATTER. AS TO LABOR, COMMINES NOTED THAT NO BILATERAL MEETING HAD BEEN HELD IN THREE YEARS AND THAT THERE WERE NUMEROUS PROBLEMS TO BE DISCUSSED.

4. SPEAKING IN MORE GENERAL TERMS, COMMINES EXPRESSED VIEW THAT ALGERIAN PUBLIC INTERESTED IN BETTER RELATIONSHIP WITH FRANCE, AND THAT BOUMEDIENE, WHILE DOUBTLESS STILL ANGRY ABOUT FRENCH-NORTH AFRICAN POLICY, MAY THEREFORE HAVE WISHED AT LEAST TO APPEAR RESPONSIVE TO GISCARD'S INITIATIVE.HAYNES

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, ECONOMIC COOPERATION, LABOR, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 feb 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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